

Celebration of Employee Service and Dedication

Aug. 10, 2020

To the UT Southwestern Community:

As we mark the beginning of this year's Employee Recognition Week, I write to thank each of you for the contributions you make to UT Southwestern on a daily basis. This year, when so much has been disrupted by COVID-19, I especially want to recognize the commitment that you have demonstrated in meeting the challenges posed by the pandemic, while still continuing to advance UT Southwestern's mission of promoting health and a healthy society.

This week, we will give special recognition to our colleagues who have reached milestone years of service, but we also celebrate the contributions that every UT Southwestern employee makes, in whatever job they hold, to fulfilling our commitment to education, discovery, and healing.

We are inducting into the UT Southwestern Quarter Century Club this year 46 members of our community who have reached the milestone of 25 years of service. They join the 311 current Quarter Century Club members, who all serve as an inspiration for others. Their institutional knowledge and long-standing dedication are vital to UT Southwestern's ongoing success. Because of COVID-19, our traditional Quarter Century Club luncheon will be replaced this year with a special video tribute to Quarter Century Club inductees and members celebrating milestone anniversaries. The video will be posted at noon on Wednesday, Aug. 12, and the entire campus community is invited to share in the celebration.

I encourage all members of the UT Southwestern community to read the August issue of *Center Times*, which includes a special Employee Recognition Program section. Copies are available on campus and <u>online</u>. In this issue, we honor our employees celebrating milestone anniversaries of 30, 35, 40, and 45 years at UT Southwestern, as well as the new members of the Quarter Century Club. I especially want to congratulate Helen Foreman, Lead Bed Control Coordinator at Clements University Hospital, for her 45 years of service. I think you will find her story, along with many of the other profiles in the special Employee Recognition Program section, inspiring.

Thank you again for all that you do – this week and throughout the year. I hope you believe, as I do, that every employee is in a position to make a difference and to contribute to UT Southwestern's reputation for excellence. Ultimately, it is the quality, commitment, and accomplishments of our employees that make UT Southwestern such a special community for all of us and for those we serve.

Daniel K. Podolsky, M.D. President, UT Southwestern Medical Center